



BOROUGH OF HALESOWEN

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for

1953



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**MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH
OF HALESOWEN**

1953

Mayor:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Councillor J. H. GREEN, J.P. | (until May, 1953) |
| Alderman L. HARPER, J.P. | (from May, 1953) |

Deputy Mayor:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Councillor W. PARKES, C.C. | (until May, 1953) |
| Councillor J. H. GREEN | (from May, 1953) |

Aldermen:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| H. J. COX, J.P. | W. HODGETTS |
| F. L. ROSE, J.P., C.C. | T. SMITH |
| L. HARPER | |

Councillors:

CENTRAL WARD

| | | |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| Miss R. D. Grove | P. Timmins | C. Brown |
|------------------|------------|----------|

NORTH WARD

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| F. Higgs | N. Garner | W. Parkes, C.C. |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|

EAST WARD

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| P. W. Scott | A. H. Spring | H. Davies |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|

WEST WARD

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| C. Willetts | J. Timmington | J. J. Shakespeare |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|

SOUTH WARD

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| J. H. Green | F. D. Woodhall | G. A. Southall, C.C. |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

R. L. CORLETT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

D. SMYTH, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Resigned ~~June~~ ^{Sept.} 1953.

A. M. NELSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Appointed Sept., 1953.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

A. ARCHER (a.b.c.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

F. COLBERT (a.b.c.), until April, 1953.

A. R. HUMPHRIES (a.b.c.), from July, 1953.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

A. R. HUMPHRIES (a.b.c.), until July, 1953.

M. K. TAYLOR (a.b.c.).

T. H. MEREDITH (a.b.c.).

Chief Clerk:

G. W. J. LEWIS.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. M. M. FIELD. Resigned September, 1953.

Miss M. J. GREENHALL. Appointed September, 1953.

Clerks:

Mrs. H. DEELEY.

Mrs. V. JEFFS. Resigned May, 1953.

Miss J. PARKES. Appointed June, 1953.

D. PERKS. H.M. Forces, November, 1953.

- (a) Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate.
- (b) Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate.
- (c) Smoke Inspectors' Certificate.

Council House,
Halesowen.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1953.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixteenth Annual Report on the health of the Borough of Halesowen.

On the whole the year was not an unhealthy one. We had our usual rather wet summer, and a fairly mild winter. The death rate continues to decline and is below the average for England and Wales, as is the birth rate. The birth rate dropped below the average of England and Wales after 1945 and has remained so since. In 1938 the birth rate was 17.09 compared to 15.1 for England and Wales.

Fortunately we had no cases notified of either diphtheria or poliomyelitis. The number of children immunised against diphtheria each year is approximately the same. It is, of course, essential to maintain this high level of immunisation to prevent this eminently preventable disease.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their generous help and kindly consideration; to the Town Clerk, Mr. A. Basterfield, O.B.E., for his help and advice; and to Mr. A. Archer and his staff, to Mrs. Field and her successor, Miss Greenhall, my grateful thanks for their willing help at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. L. CORLETT,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| The area of the district is | 5,247 acres |
| Population Census, 1951 (preliminary census figures) | 39,884 |
| Population mid 1953 | 40,070 |
| Rateable Value, March, 1953 | £177,644 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | £660 |
| Number of inhabited houses at end of 1953 | 12,574 |

Halesowen forms part of the northern area of the County of Worcester. It is partly industrial, partly residential and partly agricultural. The altitude above sea level varies from 648 feet at Hill and Cakemore, 434 feet at Halesowen, to 481 feet at Cradley.

The principal industries are: brickmaking, button manufacture, clothing manufacture, fire clay and terra cotta, chain and spike making, tube and tube fittings, perambulators, iron casting, odd iron work, coal mining, electrical work and agriculture. The majority of the population work in these industries.

VITAL STATISTICS

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-----|--------|-----|-------|
| (a) Live births: | Male | | Female | | Total |
| Legitimate | 257 | ... | 238 | ... | 495 |
| Illegitimate | 5 | ... | 6 | ... | 11 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 262 | | 244 | | 506 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| (b) Stillbirths: | | | | | |
| Legitimate | 9 | ... | 3 | ... | 12 |
| Illegitimate | 0 | ... | 0 | ... | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 9 | | 3 | | 12 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population | 12.35 |
| Birth Rate for England and Wales | 15.50 |

DEATHS

| | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
| | 216 | 167 | 383 |
| Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... | | | 9.56 |
| Area Comparability Factor | | | 1.15 |
| Adjusted Death Rate | | | 10.99 |
| Death Rate for England and Wales | | | 11.40 |
| Death Rate for 160 smaller towns estimated resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census | | | 11.30 |
| Infant Mortality Rate | | | 27.67 |
| Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales | | | 26.80 |

The Adjusted Death Rate is obtained by multiplying the Crude Death Rate by the area comparability factor, 1.15.

The comparability factor for births is 0.94. These two figures are explained on the grounds that our population is slightly younger than the average for England and Wales.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

| | Male | | Female | | Total |
|--------------------|------|-----|--------|-----|-------|
| Legitimate | 9 | ... | 5 | ... | 14 |
| Illegitimate | — | ... | — | ... | — |
| | — | | — | | — |
| | 9 | | 5 | | 14 |
| | — | | — | | — |

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

| Cause of death | Total deaths | Under 1 month |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Prematurity | 4 | 4 |
| Congenital Abnormalities | 4 | 3 |
| Intracranial Hæmorrhage | 1 | 1 |
| Broncho Pneumonia | 2 | — |
| Tracheo Bronchitis | 1 | — |
| Gastro Enteritis | 1 | — |
| Bronchitis | 1 | — |
| | — | — |
| | 14 | 8 |
| | — | — |

CAUSES OF DEATHS:—

| | Male | Female |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | 2 | 2 |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | 0 | 0 |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | 0 | 0 |
| 4. Diphtheria | 0 | 0 |
| 5. Whooping Cough | 0 | 1 |
| 6. Meningococcal Infections | 1 | 0 |
| 7. Acute poliomyelitis | 0 | 0 |
| 8. Measles | 0 | 1 |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | 1 | 0 |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 10 | 7 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 8 | 2 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | 0 | 7 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | 0 | 5 |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... | 17 | 14 |
| 15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia | 2 | 0 |
| 16. Diabetes | 2 | 4 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 27 | 19 |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 29 | 13 |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 4 | 9 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 35 | 38 |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 12 | 5 |
| 22. Influenza | 4 | 2 |
| 23. Pneumonia | 8 | 6 |
| 24. Bronchitis | 18 | 8 |
| 25. Other disease of respiratory system | 1 | 1 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 4 | 1 |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa | 1 | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | 1 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 5 | 0 |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth abortion | 0 | 0 |
| 31. Congenital malformations | 2 | 2 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 15 | 15 |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | 2 | 0 |
| 34. All other accidents | 4 | 2 |
| 35. Suicide | 1 | 1 |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> 216 <hr/> | <hr/> 167 <hr/> |

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Borough of Halesowen.

(a) 1. *Public Health Officers.*

The staff of the Public Health Department is given on page 3.

2. *Laboratory Facilities.*

The work is carried out at the Worcester County Laboratory by the County Analyst.

Bacteriological work is done by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester, under the Medical Director, Dr. R. J. Henderson.

(b) *Ambulance Facilities.*

The Ambulance Service is controlled by the Worcestershire County Council, the Chief Sanitary Inspector acting as the ambulance Officer for the Borough. There are four ambulances, with six whole-time drivers, the staff having been increased by two to meet the needs of the service. An additional ambulance of modern design was allocated to the station, which is situated centrally in the Council Depot. The County Council are proposing to build a new station in the Borough as soon as a suitable site can be found.

Set out in the following table are the details of the cases carried in the years 1949—1953:—

| | Illness | Accident | Mater- nity | Hospital Transfer | Treat- ment | Deceased | Total |
|------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------|-------|
| 1949 | 469 | 157 | 206 | 7 | 4430 | 23 | 5292 |
| 1950 | 1037 | 118 | 211 | 36 | 5944 | 21 | 7367 |
| 1951 | 560 | 220 | 166 | 82 | 8696 | 29 | 9753 |
| 1952 | 647 | 166 | 229 | 119 | 8633 | 28 | 9822 |
| 1953 | 655 | 180 | 197 | 126 | 9035 | 29 | 10222 |

The number of patients carried shows an increase of 400 as compared with the figure for 1952. The ambulances travelled 75,970 miles during the year as compared with 74,363 in 1952, an increase of 1,907 miles. The average number of miles travelled per patient was 7.5.

The hospitals used by the inhabitants of the Borough are those in the City of Birmingham; the Corbett Hospital, Amblecote; Guest Hospital, Dudley; and All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove. Maternity cases go to Mary Stevens Hospital at Stourbridge; the Lucy Baldwin

Hospital at Stourport; and the Loveday Street Maternity Hospital, Birmingham. Ambulance facilities are also provided for Romsley Hill Sanatorium. Patients suffering from infectious diseases are dealt with by the two ambulances stationed at Hayley Green Hospital.

(c) *Nursing in the Home.*

The Worcestershire County Council are the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the area. They have also arranged a "home-help" service in conjunction with the W.V.S.

(d) *Tuberculosis.*

Sanatorium treatment and the provision of dispensary treatment is the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

(e) *Infectious Disease.*

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Hayley Green Hospital, which is recognised by the General Nursing Council as a training school for fever nurses. This hospital is under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and administered under Group 17, Dudley, Stourbridge and District Hospital Group, Birmingham Region.

(f) *School Clinics, Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Sessions.*

These are provided by the County Council and the district has three centres: Hill and Cakemore, Halesowen and Cradley.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER

The water supplied to the area is satisfactory, both as regards quality and quantity. It is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company from two main sources, one being the Kinver and Prestwood Pumping Stations in the Smestow Valley, and the other the Birmingham Corporation Elan Aqueduct, tapped at Hayley Green, Halesowen.

Regular monthly sampling and analysis is undertaken by the Company both of raw and treated water. The results from both sources have been satisfactory. The water is not liable to plumbo

solvency, but periodic samples are taken for lead by the Company. The average chemical results for the two sources of supply during 1953 were as follows:—

| | Kinver and Prestwood Pumping Stations | | Hayley Green |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| Number of Samples | 21 | | 52 |
| | Parts per million | | Parts per million |
| Alkalinity (CaCO ₃) | 36 | | 10 |
| Chlorides (Cl) | 19.2 | | 10.3 |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N) | Trace | | Trace |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen (N) | 0.014 | | 0.022 |
| Oxidised Nitrogen (N) | 1.7 | | 0.9 |
| Oxygen absorbed (3hr. at 27° C).. | 0.97 | | 1.53 |
| Temporary Hardness | 30 | | 4 |
| Permanent Hardness | 33 | | 19 |
| Total Hardness | 63 | | 23 |
| Iron (Fe) | 0.22 | | 0.26 |
| Manganese (Mn) | Trace | | Trace |
| Poisonous Metals (Cu and Pb) | Nil | | Nil |
| Free Chlorine | Nil | | 0.01 |

Main Extensions during 1953

| | | |
|---------|----------------|--|
| Hasbury | 157 yards, 6" | Huntingtree Road. |
| | 1322 yards, 4" | Hasbury Farm Estate. |
| | 218 yards, 6" | Alexandra Road. |
| | 3 yards, 3" | 20 yards, 4" 18 yards, 6" cross connection at Windsor Street. |
| Hawne | 195 yards, 4" | Hawne Lane. |
| Lutley | 123 yards, 4" | Lutley Lane. |
| Lapal | 664 yards | Howley Grange Site. |
| Cradley | 45 yards, 3" | 172 yards, 4" Mapletree Lane. |

Only a few isolated dwellings are not supplied with mains water. These depend on private wells for their supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There is a dual system of sewers in the district, the surface water being collected separately from the foul wastes. Most of the premises in the Borough are connected to the sewer except for a group of some 18 houses at Illey, and isolated dwellings in the rural parts of the Borough. The Borough of Halesowen is one of the constituent authorities of the Upper Stour Valley Main Sewerage Board, who are responsible for the main trunk sewers running through the Borough. Most of the sewage in the Board's area is treated by broad irrigation of farm lands at Whittington, near Kinver. There is an additional disposal works at Quarry Bank, where the process consists of sedimentation in tanks followed by treatment in filter beds. To deal with storm water, tanks have been constructed at Belle Vale, Halesowen.

In recent years there has been some flooding in the Hayley Green district in times of storm or continuous heavy rainfall. The foul sewer is not able to take the flow and backs up. In this particular area there is no storm water sewer, and a survey of the house drainage showed that the surface water from many houses is connected to the foul sewer.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Details on the inspection of houses are given later in the report.

In 1953 the number of houses built was 381 (195 by the Local Authority, and 196 privately). Before the war, 1,844 houses were built by Halesowen Council, and since then, up to the end of 1953, 1,033 permanent and 86 temporary houses have been built.

Ten families were re-housed during 1953 on the grounds of tuberculosis, in the interests of the patients, and in the hope that extra accommodation would lessen the risk of infection.

SECTION E.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Rates per 1,000 civilian population.

| | England and Wales | Halesowen |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Typhoid | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1.39 | 1.60 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Meningococcal Infection..... | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Whooping Cough | 3.58 | 3.29 |
| Diphtheria | 0.01 | 0.00 |
| Measles..... | 12.36 | 15.65 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Erysipelas..... | 0.14 | 0.07 |
| Pneumonia | 0.84 | 0.72 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis : | | |
| Paralytic | 0.07 | 0.00 |
| Non Paralytic | 0.04 | 0.00 |

SMALLPOX

No case was reported during the year.

SCARLET FEVER

Sixty-four cases were reported, as against 73 for the previous year. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA

No case was reported during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The work is the responsibility of the County Council and the Department continues to carry on the Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics on their behalf. The number of children treated at the clinics during 1953 was as follows:—

| | Primary Treatment completed | Boosting Doses completed |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 5 years | 572 | — |
| Five to 15 years | 29 | 611 |
| | <hr/> 601 <hr/> | <hr/> 611 <hr/> |

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

No case was reported during the year.

ERYSIPELAS

There were three cases reported, all recovered.

MEASLES

There were 627 cases of measles reported. This number was not unexpected as in December, 1952, there was a rise in notifications from 1 in November to 85 in December. We get a measles epidemic about every two years here.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| 1953..... | 628 | 1951..... | 537 |
| 1952..... | 187 | 1950..... | 112 |

The increased incidence lasts 4-5 months. There was one death.

MEASLES NOTIFICATIONS

| | Wards | | | | | Total |
|-----------------|-------|-------|------|------|---------|-------|
| | North | South | East | West | Central | |
| January | 34 | 12 | 32 | 8 | 6 | 92 |
| February | 18 | 3 | 4 | 55 | 2 | 82 |
| March | 14 | 50 | 5 | 47 | 38 | 154 |
| April | 8 | 128 | 4 | 24 | 48 | 212 |
| May | 3 | 29 | 2 | 5 | 24 | 63 |
| June | — | 4 | — | 2 | 5 | 11 |
| July | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| August | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| September | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| October..... | — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| November | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| December | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| | 78 | 227 | 51 | 146 | 125 | 627 |

WHOOPING COUGH

One hundred and thirty-two cases were reported. There was one death.

TUBERCULOSIS

Thirty-two cases were reported during the year. Thirty-one were pulmonary and one was non-pulmonary. There were 4 deaths as against 10 for the previous year. The number of cases on the register at the end of 1953 was:—

| Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary | |
|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 118 | 108 | 11 | 20 |

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1953

| Age Periods | Pulmonary | | Non-pulmonary | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 0 — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 10 — | — | — | — | 1 |
| 15 — | — | 3 | — | — |
| 20 — | 2 | 4 | — | — |
| 25 — | 2 | 7 | — | — |
| 35 — | 2 | — | — | — |
| 45 — | 4 | 2 | — | — |
| 55 — | 3 | — | — | — |
| 65 — | 1 | — | — | — |
| | — | — | — | — |
| | 14 | 17 | — | 1 |
| | — | — | — | — |

FOOD POISONING

There were 14 cases notified during the year. In six of these patients, *Salmonella typhi-murium* was isolated, no pathogenic organisms were found in the other cases.

There were 2 outbreaks, presumably of mild food infection, involving a school canteen.

The recovery fortunately was so rapid that by morning the patients were well and consequently did not consult their own doctors. Arrangements have now been made for samples of food to be kept.

On the last occasion, although an actual sample was not available, a sample from the waste food bin gave a culture of *clostridium welchii*. Bacteriological examination of the stools of those affected did not reveal any pathogenic organism. The symptoms were diarrhoea and abdominal pain, in a few cases vomiting without nausea. Average interval from ingestion to onset 12-18 hours.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

No cases were notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1953.

| Disease | Total | 0— | 1— | 3— | 5— | 10— | 15— | 25— | 65— | Age Unknown |
|-----------------------------|-------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 64 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 45 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 | — |
| Measles | 627 | 18 | 136 | 199 | 261 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 132 | 15 | 29 | 35 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Poliomyelitis Paralytic ... | Nil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — |
| Diphtheria | Nil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — |
| Pneumonia | 29 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 5 | — |
| Erysipelas | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | — |
| Food Poisoning | 14 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 0 | — |
| Meningococcal Infections | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — |

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

The pattern of work in 1953 was similar to that in 1952. There was, perhaps, more emphasis on food hygiene, and a large number of advisory visits were paid to premises where food is prepared or sold. More work was done at school canteens, and the supervision of such premises by the local authority is a most important duty.

So far as housing is concerned, there will be little progress made until a determined effort is shown towards clearing the dilapidated, worn-out property, which is a menace to the occupiers and a burden to the owner.

The refuse collection service was well maintained throughout the year, and there were very few complaints. Not many residents ever give it a thought, much less marvel at the fact that in 1953 it cost something less than 6d. per house, per week, to remove household waste and dispose of it.

In presenting this report, I should like to record my great pleasure at having such an excellent, loyal, and hard-working staff, and in this I include not only Inspectors and clerks, but the whole of the men engaged in collecting and disposing of refuse and the maintenance of vehicles. I would thank, too, the Chairman, Councillor C. Willetts, for his constant interest; Dr. R. L. Corlett for his help and advice; and the Town Clerk, Mr. A. Basterfield, O.B.E., and other colleagues for their ready co-operation.

A. ARCHER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING.

During 1953 work on housing was mainly confined to the removal of urgent nuisances, and the demolition of the very worst houses, usually when it was known that the tenants were likely to be rehoused. A great deal of time is spent in dealing with complaints, making inspections, sending out notices, and continually reinspecting until the nuisances are abated. Even when the work required is done, the property is still old, unsuitable, and lacking in amenities. The only way to deal with the worst property is by orderly clearance rather than by piecemeal demolition. With the continual encroachment on agricultural land for housing, the time has surely come for redevelopment of those areas which contain the worn-out, densely-sited houses.

1. *Inspections of dwelling houses during the year:—*

| | | | |
|-----|-----|--|------|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 168 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 1556 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932 | 7 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 52 |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation | 7 |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 161 |

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—*

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers | 77 |
|--|----|

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—*

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (a) | Proceedings under Public Health Acts:— | |
| | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 51 |

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) by owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| (b) by local authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

(b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which a Closing Order has been made | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|

4. *Housing Act, 1936. Part IV—Overcrowding—*

No detailed figures are available as to the extent of overcrowding.

FOOD MANUFACTURE, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION

MILK SUPPLY

Nearly all the milk sold in the Borough is heat treated milk. Only a very small amount of raw tuberculin tested milk is retailed.

During 1953 the following licences were in force:—

| | |
|---|----|
| Dealers licence in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk (Distributors) | 10 |
| Distributors licence in respect of Heat Treated Milk | 19 |
| Distributors licence in respect of Sterilised Milk | 87 |

The following samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination:—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised | 40 |
| Pasteurised | 40 |
| Sterilised | 19 |
| Tuberculin Tested | 1 |

All the samples were reported upon as being satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

The following registrations were in force at the end of 1953 in respect of ice-cream:—

| | |
|--|-----|
| Registration for manufacture, storage and sale ... | 1 |
| Registration for sale only | 112 |

The manufacturer operates on a very small scale, using the complete cold mix method. The sample results were again very satisfactory, all falling within Grade I.

| No. of Samples | Grade | % |
|----------------|-------|-----|
| 45 | 1 | 100 |

There was a wide variation in fat content. The results were as follows:—

| No. of Samples | Fat Content % |
|----------------|---------------|
| — | 0.1 — 3.0 |
| 1 | 3.1 — 5.0 |
| 1 | 5.1 — 7.0 |
| 1 | 7.1 — 9.0 |
| 12 | 9.1 — 11.0 |
| 16 | 11.1 — 13.0 |
| 9 | 13.1 — 15.0 |
| 2 | 15.1 — 17.0 |
| 1 | 17.1 — 19.0 |
| 1 | 19.1 — 21.0 |
| — | 21.1 — 23.0 |
| — | 23.1 — 25.0 |
| — | 25.1 — 27.0 |
| 1 | 27.1 — 30.0 |
| — | 30.1 — 35.0 |
| — | |
| Total 45 | |
| — | |

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Although Halesowen is not a Food and Drugs authority, a great deal of interest is taken in the quality of food sold in the district.

297 samples of food were submitted to the Analyst. A sample of whole cloves contained dead beetles, 5.3% clove stalks, and 7.7% debris; and a sample of sweetened scone mixture was infested by insects. In both cases the stocks were surrendered.

Liaison is maintained with the Supervisors at the central kitchens concerning the quality of the food delivered. During the year, a sample of rice was reported upon as containing immature rice seeds, and portions of rice husk and chaff. Another sample of rice appeared to be fit for human consumption, but rice puddings prepared from the sample had a slight but distinct musty taste. The firm concerned withdrew all the rice delivered to the various canteens.

With regard to the substance known as "Vitacream," the Public Analyst certified that its composition in March, 1953 (Sample No. 370) included 26.6 per cent. fat, 0.8 per cent. cane sugar, 0.8 per cent. sodium alginate, and 0.7 per cent. egg yolk. The Public Analyst criticised the labelling of this product, and the vendors agreed to reprint the labels, and add the words "synthetic cream."

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLED

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Milk | ... | ... | 116 | Dried Milk | ... | ... | 4 |
| Tea | ... | ... | 5 | Malted Milk | ... | ... | 2 |
| Gelatine | ... | ... | 1 | Evaporated Milk | ... | ... | 1 |
| Flour | ... | ... | 8 | Fish | ... | ... | 3 |
| Cream | ... | ... | 4 | Cocoa | ... | ... | 1 |
| Semolina | ... | ... | 5 | Cooking Fat | ... | ... | 1 |
| Baking Powder | ... | ... | 5 | Medicinal Products | ... | ... | 36 |
| Dried Eggs | ... | ... | 1 | Sago | ... | ... | 1 |
| Custard Powder | ... | ... | 3 | Figs | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sugar | ... | ... | 1 | Sauce | ... | ... | 2 |
| Vitacream | ... | ... | 2 | Ground Coconut | ... | ... | 1 |
| Yoghourt | ... | ... | 1 | Cake Mixture | ... | ... | 2 |
| Rice | ... | ... | 2 | Tomatoes | ... | ... | 1 |
| Tomato Puree | ... | ... | 1 | Suet | ... | ... | 4 |
| Jam | ... | ... | 2 | Coffee and Chicory | ... | ... | 4 |
| Peas | ... | ... | 1 | Rhubarb | ... | ... | 1 |
| Fish Paste | ... | ... | 9 | Mincemeat | ... | ... | 1 |
| Condiments | ... | ... | 51 | Iced Squares | ... | ... | 1 |
| Table Jelly | ... | ... | 5 | Crispbread | ... | ... | 1 |
| Malt Vinegar | ... | ... | 2 | Sugared Strands | ... | ... | 1 |
| Meat | ... | ... | 1 | Spread | ... | ... | 1 |
| Synthetic Cream Powder | ... | ... | 1 | | | | |

Samples taken in the Borough by the Worcestershire County Council were as follows:—

- 150 formal milk samples.
- 99 informal milk samples.
- 18 formal samples of miscellaneous foods.
- 24 informal samples of miscellaneous foods.

- 2 formal samples of drugs.
- 8 informal samples of drugs.
- 1 formal sample taken under the Food Standards Orders.
- 7 informal samples taken under the Food Standards Orders.

One sample of dripping was certified unfit for edible purposes because of the high content of free fatty acids (indicating development of rancidity). The trader was cautioned.

One sample of sausages was found to contain excessive sulphite preservative, and the manufacturers were cautioned.

The Department is indebted to Mr. M. M. Love, F.R.I.C., County Analyst, and to his Staff for their ready help and co-operation; to Mr. E. A. Spencer, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, Worcestershire County Council; and to Mr. N. T. Jones, Divisional Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, for the information relating to samples taken by the Worcestershire County Council.

FOOD PREMISES

An increased number of visits were paid to food premises of all types, and improvements continue to be carried out. On the whole, the standard of premises, although in many cases adapted to their present purposes, is quite good. The stage has now been reached where there should be no serious risk of food infection, provided hygienic practices are carried out by the proprietors and staff the whole time. In fact, it is suggested that practices are even more important than premises. Because of this it is absolutely necessary that food premises of all kinds should be visited frequently, and that the visits be treated as part of the public health department advisory service, rather than for the detection of offences.

Amongst the improvements which have been carried out during the year are:—

FOOD PREMISES

Butchers (Inspections 234)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Redecoration | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| New equipment | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

Bakehouses (Inspections 85)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Structural improvements | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Improved equipment | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Cafés and Canteens (Inspections 166)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Structural improvements | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Improved equipment | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Fishmongers and Poulterers (Inspections 64)

| | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

Fried Fish Shops (Inspections 179)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

Grocers (Inspections 141)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Improved sanitary accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Structural improvements | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Premises making or selling Ice-Cream (Inspections 149)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

Greengrocers and Fruiterers (Inspections 92)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

Markets (Inspections 81)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Covers to protect loose sweets from contamination | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

Licensed Premises (Inspections 43)

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Improved hot water supply | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Improved sanitary accommodation | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Structural improvements | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Redecoration | ... | ... | ... | 5 |

School Canteens (Inspections 43)

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

In September, 1953, a special report was made to the Council on the school meals service. During the spring and summer of 1953, officers visited the central kitchens and made notes on all the processes being carried out, e.g., food preparation, cooking, washing up and general cleaning. Records were made of equipment and apparatus, the structure of the premises, and of items relevant to the hygiene of food preparation.

In addition to these inspections of the central kitchens, the schools supplied by the kitchens were visited, and notes made in connection with the serving of the food, the methods used for washing crockery and cutlery, methods of storing the equipment, the cleanliness and general condition of the premises. Special attention was paid to the washing-up procedure, and water temperatures were checked by thermometers. The object of the survey was partly to provide an independent check on the school meals service to discover whether there were any weaknesses which might be remedied, and partly so that the department would be completely familiar with the organisation in the event of having to make enquiries should there be any outbreaks of food poisoning.

The standard of cleanliness of both persons and equipment in the school meals service is very high, and every care is taken to see that this standard is maintained by the administrative staff, the canteen supervisors, and by the staff employed. The meals provided are wholesome, carefully prepared and attractively served. Few private establishments are so well equipped or maintain the same high standards as do the central kitchens. Considering the possible hazards involved in the preparation of large numbers of meals daily, and the number of workers concerned, it is a considerable tribute to this service that only on very rare occasions in the past few years has there been any suspicion that food served at school canteens was implicated in any cases of food infection.

At various premises visited, defects of one kind or another were noted, many of them of a minor character. There were, however, some matters sufficiently important to warrant early investigation, and one of these was the technique of washing up. Some of the rooms used for this purpose, whilst probably the best available were unsatisfactory. Most of them had had to be adapted for the purpose. Although the use of two sinks for washing up is most desirable, especially when a large number of meals are being served, there are still places which lack this facility.

There was considerable variation in the method of washing crockery from one establishment to another. Dishcloths were not always boiled regularly. The use of detergents was found to be haphazard, and few of the workers had any idea as to what the purpose of the detergent was. Where crockery was being sterilized, inspectors noted it was not always free from grease. It was also noted that the temperatures of washing up water and of water in which it was hoped to sterilize, were frequently not high enough.

Apart from the defects to the premises, it was clear that there was need for very much more advice and practical demonstration on the technique of washing up. A detailed report on the canteens was sent to the Worcester County Council.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

Inspection of foodstuffs was in general carried out during the inspections of premises. No slaughterhouses were in use in the Borough, and the only animals slaughtered were a small number of pigs from private dwellings.

MEAT

The following is the list of foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption:—

- 1 pig and all organs (septicæmia).
- 1 kidney (beast).
- 2 cwts. 59 lbs. beef (bruising and decomposition).
- 13 lbs. mutton (abcess and bruising).
- 25 lbs. pork (blood extravasation).

OTHER FOODS

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Vegetables | 109 tins |
| Fruit | 1,589 tins, 474 bunches of bananas |
| Fish | 69 tins and 87 lbs. |
| Milk | 214 tins |
| Meat | 129 tins |
| Preservatives | 2 bottles |
| Soup | 41 tins |
| Fish Paste | 11 tins |
| Pork Sausages | 1 tin |
| Coffee | 1 tin |
| Cordials | 5 bottles |
| Mustard | 1 tin |
| Gravy Browning | 10 bottles |
| Cheese | 44 lbs. |
| Sauce | 6 bottles |
| Pickle | 25 jars |
| Apple Sauce | 7 tins |
| Meat Paste | 26 tins |
| Jam | 4 jars |
| Honey | 2 jars |
| Nuts | 2 boxes |
| Raisins | 21 lbs. |
| Cheese and Tomato | 3 jars |
| Spaghetti | 1 tin |
| Lemon Juice | 1 bottle |
| Salad Cream | 1 bottle |

CONTROL OF RATS, FLIES, Etc.

Routine treatment of the sewers were carried out with very few takes. This is because the sewers are very small and invariably running fairly full.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

Ninety-seven licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit, and three for the storage of calcium carbide.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Council continue to operate the gauges and instruments for measuring atmospheric pollution. Halesowen, because of its position in relation to the "Black Country" area, is fortunate in that the prevailing wind blows from Halesowen to the Black Country area. The areas surrounding from the direction from which the prevailing winds come, are largely rural in character, and the Borough receives practically no atmospheric pollution from adjacent areas. It is comparatively a clean Borough, but this position is capable of considerable improvement, especially in certain areas of the Borough. In Cradley, for example, too much dust and smoke is emitted by the three brickworks, some of the foundries in the Borough emit far more dust than is either necessary or desirable. On the other hand, some of the problems do not offer a simple or easy solution, nor is the present-day legislation of very much help.

It must not be overlooked, of course, that not all atmospheric pollution is from industrial sources. Much of it comes from the domestic chimney, and the Council would be well advised to consider in laying out future estates the possibility of creating smokeless zones.

A total of 249 observations were carried out during the year, and 214 visits were paid to inspect plant. Sixty-eight visits were made in connection with the atmospheric pollution recording apparatus.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There are now five stations with deposit gauges and lead peroxide instruments. These are sited as follows:—

1. Hayley Green Hospital, Hayley Green, Halesowen.
2. Central Library, Council House, Halesowen.
3. Olive Hill County Primary School, Springfield Road, Blackheath.
4. Cradley County Modern School, Homer Hill, Cradley.
5. County Modern School, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

The statistics for 1953 are set out below:—

Monthly deposit of total solids in tons per square mile.

| Station | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| 1 | ... | 5.39 | 4.05 | 25.12 | 7.74 | 5.81 | 12.96 | 8.78 | 9.19 | 5.94 | 4.94 | 3.8 |
| 2 | ... | ... | 11.23 | 8.47 | 15.63 | 12.77 | 16.52 | * | 9.18 | 9.08 | 7.47 | 7.15 |
| 3 | ... | ... | 10.97 | 5.17 | 20.72 | 12.24 | 13.98 | 9.6 | 8.87 | 10.31 | 8.97 | 5.83 |
| 4 | ... | ... | 8.23 | * | 17.72 | 9.72 | 7.80 | 26.85 | 16.26 | 9.06 | 12.28 | 8.03 |
| 5 | ... | ... | 8.40 | 6.80 | 18.28 | 12.17 | 5.80 | * | 11.67 | 9.10 | 8.74 | 4.97 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 8.20 | 4.97 | 6.27 |

* No accurate figures available.

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrammes per 100 square centimetres per day.

| Station | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 1 | ... | ... | .95 | .22 | .44 | .40 | .41 | 1.19 | .19 | .17 | .32 | .65 |
| 2 | ... | ... | 1.53 | .50 | .52 | .45 | .54 | 1.01 | .36 | .36 | .54 | 1.08 |
| 3 | ... | ... | 2.81 | .48 | .53 | .52 | .94 | 2.0 | .92 | .72 | 1.22 | 2.28 |
| 4 | ... | ... | 2.07 | .37 | .63 | .64 | 1.03 | 1.51 | .57 | .52 | .77 | 1.45 |
| 5 | ... | ... | 1.68 | .42 | .47 | .47 | .90 | 1.35 | .35 | .39 | .62 | 1.46 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | .94 | 2.11 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | .85 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | .81 | 1.85 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 1.46 | 2.67 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 1.12 | 2.20 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 2.11 |

Again it is apparent that the atmosphere at Hayley Green Hospital is substantially cleaner than that in the vicinity of the other stations.

FACTORIES

228 visits were paid to factories mainly in connection with sanitary conveniences, canteens, rat infestation, or in connection with dust nuisances. The removal of dust from the operator is the concern of H.M. Factories Inspector, dust only becomes the concern of the Sanitary Inspector when it is emitted into the atmosphere. It is one of the difficult problems of industry, and there is room for much more consultation between factory management, worker, H.M. Factories Inspector, and Chief Sanitary Inspector. In too many cases is dust removed from the workshop to be emitted into the atmosphere, either because the collecting apparatus is inefficient, unsuitable, or not properly maintained.

SHOPS AND MARKETS

Food shops were inspected regularly; shops not dealing in foods were inspected only for some special reason.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Six licences were issued authorising the keeping of pet shops.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

There are 36 licensed slaughtermen.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, Section 269

During 1953, thirteen licences were in force authorising persons to station caravans on land in various parts of the Borough.

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920-1938

Three rent certificates were applied for during 1953.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The public cleansing service is administered by the Public Health Department and includes the collection and disposal of refuse and of salvage. The Department is also responsible for the maintenance and repairs of Corporation vehicles. Street cleansing, gulley emptying and snow removal are dealt with by the Highways Department.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected by three side-loading freighters and one end-loading vehicle. Four teams have been employed, but due to housing development in the Borough, it is probable that a further collection round will have to be introduced.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and consolidated by using an angledozer, being immediately covered with ashes and waste moulding sand. The site in use is likely to be completed as a tip during 1955.

The labour position continued to be reasonably satisfactory, mainly due to the conditions of service. An incentive bonus scheme is operated, and this has proved economical to the Council and satisfactory to the men. Protective clothing is issued to all employees. The collection intervals were satisfactory, but sickness amongst the staff in the early winter made it necessary to work overtime.

The Corporation supplies dustbins to private houses at an annual charge of 5/-, and 352 dustbins were issued during 1953.

SALVAGE

Associated with the collection and disposal of refuse is the recovery of several kinds of salvageable material. Trailers for this purpose are attached to the refuse freighters, and in addition separate collections of waste paper are made at business premises. Kitchen waste is collected both from domestic premises, where a small domestic container supplied by the Council is used, and from canteens and cafés.

The Council has continued to maintain its salvage recovery services, and the position became easier with the removal of the restriction on the tonnage of waste paper sent to the mills.

Since 1945, the income from the sale of salvage has been just over £29,000, and in that time 2,050 tons of paper, 1,585 tons of kitchen waste, 587 tons of scrap metal, and 70 tons of rags has been collected and sold. An unfortunate feature relating to salvage is the considerable fluctuation in prices paid.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

The Public Health Department maintains all the vehicles and most of the mechanical equipment owned by the Council.

At the end of 1953, the following vehicles were being serviced:—
Public Health Department

- 6 refuse freighters.
- 2 trucks.

- 2 vans.
- 1 angledozer.
- 5 ambulances.
- 1 mayoral car (Austin 16).

Highways and Parks Department

- 5 trucks.
- 2 vans.
- 1 gulley emptier.
- 1 road sweeper.
- 1 tractor.
- 3 mowers.
- 1 motor roller.
- 1 official car.

In addition, the mechanical and boiler installations are maintained.

DEPOT.

The Cleansing Depot is most unsatisfactory, but the Council have acquired land on which it is proposed to erect a new depot to meet the requirements of all departments.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Drainage—public sewers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 126 |
| Drains | ... | ... | ... | ... | 743 |
| Sanitary accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Infectious Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57 |
| Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 46 |
| Food Infections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Nuisances (Section 93) | | | | | |
| Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,446 |
| Keeping of Animals | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Dust or effluvia | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Accumulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Offensive Trades | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Refuse—Dustbins | ... | ... | ... | ... | 459 |
| Trade refuse | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Tips | ... | ... | ... | ... | 141 |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Smoke Nuisances | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| Observations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 249 |
| Visit to plants | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 171 |
| Atmospheric Pollution measurements | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 68 |
| Tents, vans, sheds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 135 |
| Verminous premises | | | | | | |
| Council houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Other houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| Watercourses, streams | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| FAIRGROUNDS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| LAND CHARGES | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 403 |
| RODENT CONTROL | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 468 |
| FACTORIES—with power | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 220 |
| without power | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Outworkers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| HOUSING ACTS: | | | | | | |
| Detail house inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84 |
| Overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICATIONS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,947 |
| PETROLEUM | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 139 |
| PIGSTYES | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53 |
| FOOD INSPECTION:— | | | | | | |
| Butchers' shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 234 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 85 |
| Cafes, Canteens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 166 |
| Dairies, Milkshops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Fishmongers, Poulterers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 64 |
| Fried Fish Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 179 |
| Food preparing premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Greengrocers, Fruiterers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92 |
| Grocers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 141 |
| Ice-cream premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 149 |
| Markets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 81 |
| Street Vendors | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Other food premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 68 |
| Licensed premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| Pigs inspected on private premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69 |
| School canteens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 834 |

PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN **Cost Statement 1953-54**

| Item | Particulars 1 | Collection 2 | Disposal 3 | Totals 4 |
|--|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE ACCOUNT | | | | |
| 1. Gross Expenditure: | | £ | £ | £ |
| (i) Labour | | 6,706 | 2,274 | 8,980 |
| (ii) Transport | | 6,380 | 2,577 | 8,957 |
| (iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings | | 698 | 313 | 1,011 |
| (iv) Other items (including £ <i>nil</i> paid to other local authorities) | | 85 | 133 | 218 |
| (v) Total gross expenditure | | 13,869 | 5,297 | 19,166 |
| 2. GROSS INCOME (including £ <i>nil</i> received from other local authorities) | | 156 | 3,085 | 3,241 |
| 3. NET COST | | 13,713 | 2,212 | 15,925 |
| 4. Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) | | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| UNIT COSTS | | | | |
| 5. Gross cost per ton, labour only | | £ s. d. 15 2 | £ s. d. 5 1 | £ s. d. 1 0 3 |
| 6. Gross cost per ton, transport only | | 14 4 | 5 10 | 1 0 2 |
| 7. Net cost (all expenditure) per ton | | 1 10 2 | 5 0 | 1 15 2 |
| 8. Net cost per 1,000 population | | £ s. d. 342 16 6 | £ s. d. 55 6 0 | £ s. d. 398 2 6 |
| 9. Net cost per 1,000 premises | | 1,075 10 7 | 173 9 10 | 1,249 0 5 |

Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse (including salvage) for each house, per week, 5.7d.
Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse (including salvage) for each resident, per week, 1.82d.

Comparative Salvage Statistics for the Financial Years 1947-1953

TONNAGE

| Year | Kitchen Waste | | Paper | | Scrap Metal | | Baled Tins | | Bones | | Rags | | Bottles | | Tonnage | |
|------|---------------|---------|-------|---------|-------------|---------|------------|---------|-------|---------|------|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|
| | T. | C. Qrs. | T. | C. Qrs. | T. | C. Qrs. | T. | C. Qrs. | T. | C. Qrs. | T. | C. Qrs. | Dozen | | T. | C. Qrs. |
| 1947 | 133 | 18 2 | 187 | 13 3 | 26 | 7 3 | 57 | 16 3 | 1 | 3 1½ | 7 | 9 3 | 248½ | | 415 | 7 1½ |
| 1948 | 163 | 9 0 | 225 | 10 0 | 23 | 4 1 | 36 | 10 2 | 1 | 2 1½ | 8 | 5 1½ | 1273½ | | 458 | 1 2 |
| 1949 | 212 | 7 0 | 258 | 5 2 | 24 | 10 2 | 14 | 5 3 | 1 | 0 0½ | 7 | 0 2 | 1448 | | 517 | 9 1 |
| 1950 | 197 | 5 0 | 239 | 19 1 | 30 | 1 0 | 6 | 17 2 | 1 | 18 1 | 5 | 15 1 | 147½ | | 481 | 16 1 |
| 1951 | 194 | 19 0 | 319 | 0 3 | 78 | 19 1 | 11 | 16 0 | 1 | 3 1 | 9 | 7 0 | 674½ | | 615 | 5 1 |
| 1952 | 199 | 15 0 | 259 | 14 1 | 40 | 15 1¼ | 3 | 0 1 | 1 | 13 3 | 7 | 2 2 | — | | 512 | 1 0¼ |
| 1953 | 184 | 10 0 | 247 | 1 3 | 23 | 16 3 | 3 | 6 3 | 2 | 14 0 | 5 | 5 1 | — | | 466 | 14 2 |

INCOME.

| Year | Kitchen Waste | | Paper | | Scrap Metal | | Baled Tins | | Bones | | Rags | | Bottles | | Tonnage | |
|------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| 1947 | 514 | 10 3 | 1207 | 7 10 | 79 | 10 11 | 112 | 15 8 | 6 | 7 0 | 190 | 16 9 | 21 | 16 6 | 2147 | 12 5 |
| 1948 | 791 | 14 6 | 1480 | 5 8 | 79 | 10 1 | 71 | 5 9 | 6 | 17 8 | 174 | 0 4 | 59 | 1 10 | 2662 | 15 10 |
| 1949 | 1097 | 8 9 | 1654 | 12 1 | 88 | 1 2 | 27 | 17 3 | 5 | 15 10 | 149 | 16 0 | 57 | 7 1 | 3080 | 18 2 |
| 1950 | 1071 | 5 6 | 1670 | 2 9 | 103 | 6 10 | 16 | 4 4 | 10 | 6 10 | 114 | 1 10 | 6 | 2 2 | 2991 | 10 3 |
| 1951 | 1209 | 5 1 | 5308 | 13 9 | 313 | 11 5 | 51 | 18 2 | 6 | 13 0 | 273 | 4 9 | 29 | 6 4 | 7192 | 12 6 |
| 1952 | 1276 | 11 9 | 2263 | 2 10 | 232 | 4 11 | 13 | 11 1 | 9 | 5 9 | 150 | 16 6 | — | — | 3945 | 12 10 |
| 1953 | 1150 | 19 4 | 1822 | 4 9 | 98 | 6 8 | 14 | 12 7 | 15 | 10 6 | 82 | 19 6 | — | — | 3184 | 13 4 |

Operational Statistics

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Area | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,247 acres |
| Population at 30th June, 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40,070 |
| Total refuse collected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,874 tons |
| Weight per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12.2 cwts. |
| Number of premises from which refuse is collected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,750 premises |
| Average haul by collection vehicle to disposal point | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 miles. |
| Total refuse disposed of | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,874 tons |
| Method of disposal: | | | | | | | |
| Controlled tipping | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100% |

Salvage and Trade Refuse. Analysis of income and tonnage:

| Salvage: | Income | Tonnage collected |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|
| | £ | Tons |
| (a) Kitchen Waste | 1,150 | 184 |
| (b) Scrap Metal | 98 | 23 |
| (c) Waste Paper | 1,822 | 247 |
| (d) Other Salvage | 113 | 11 |
| Trade Refuse | 156 | — |

TABLE V
FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | |
|--|---|----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Found | Remedied | Reference | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1) | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 12 | 5 | — | 9 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences (not including offences relating to home work) | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 12 | 5 | — | 9 |

No prosecutions were instituted.

TABLE VI
FACTORIES ACT, 1937

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| 1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authority ... | 15 | 8 | — | — |
| 2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority ... | 226 | 220 | 12 | — |
| 3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | 241 | 228 | 12 | — |

Reliance Printing Works, Church Lane, Halesowen
